

Prepared by: Heather Mathre, Budget Manager, Cerro Gordo County, 220 N Washington Avenue, Mason City, Iowa
Return to: Heather Mathre, Budget Manager, 220 N Washington Avenue, Mason City, Iowa

ORDINANCE 36C

An Ordinance Amending Cerro Gordo County Ordinance Book 1, and more specifically Ordinance 36B, An Ordinance Establishing Rates and Charges for the Use and Service of the Municipal Sanitary Sewer Utility (the utility) Franchised by the City of Meservey, Iowa (the city), to Cerro Gordo County (the county)

Be It Enacted by the Board of Supervisors of Cerro Gordo County, Iowa:

Section 1. Amendment. The Cerro Gordo County Ordinance No. 36B adopted August 26, 2008 is hereby amended by repealing all sections and by adopting the following new sections.

ARTICLE I

Sanitary Sewer Rates

SECTION 1. There shall be and there are hereby established sewer service charges for the use of and for the service supplied by the municipal sanitary sewer utility based upon the amount and rate of water consumed as follows:

AMOUNT	SEWER SERVICE CHARGE
First 3000 gal. or lesser amount per month	\$25.00 per month beginning 7/1/2020 (minimum monthly bill) \$28.00 per month beginning 7/1/2022 (minimum monthly bill)
All over 3000 gal. per month	\$7.00 per 1000 gal.

SECTION 2. All gallonage classifications in the above rate schedule include a constant rate of \$2.75 per 1,000 gallons for operation, maintenance and replacement costs.

SECTION 3. In the case of "on-site" systems, the service charge shall be equal to the minimum monthly bill, currently which is \$25.00 per month. In the case of non-metered services, the minimum service charge shall not be less than \$35.00 per month, which is necessary to retire the indebtedness, to pay operating, maintenance and replacement and to fund reserves necessary for maintaining the sanitary sewer facility.

SECTION 4. Service to industrial establishments may be by contract if the County deems this to be in its best interest.

ARTICLE II

Application Process

SECTION 1. Applications for sewer service shall be filed with the Utility upon a form to be supplied by the County. The application shall state the name of the applicant and the premises to be served. All applications filed after the commencement of the operation of the system shall be accompanied by a fee of Fifty dollars (\$50.00), payable to the County, for the connection charge.

ARTICLE III

Billing Process

SECTION 1. Bills for the rates and charges as herein established shall be sent monthly. All bills shall be payable on the first day of the month following the period of service and shall be paid at the office of the Utility. If any charge for the services of the system shall not be paid by the 21st day of the month in which it shall become due and payable, a charge \$5.00 (combined water and sewer) shall be added thereto and collected therewith. If any bills remain unpaid 30 days following the due date, the water supply for the lot, parcel of land or premise affected may, after a notice and hearing, be cut off and may not be restored except upon satisfactory payment of the delinquent charges.

SECTION 2. The service charges for sanitary sewer services to customers not being supplied water by a municipal water system will be due and payable on the first day of each month.

SECTION 3. The owner of the premises served and the occupant thereof and the user of the sanitary sewer service shall be jointly and severally liable for the sewer service provided said premises. A deposit of Two hundred dollars (\$200.00 combined water and sewer) shall be required from all tenants. The deposit shall be applied to any bill for sewer service delinquent more than 30 days. Upon disconnection of the sewer service, any balance of such deposit shall be returned to the applicant without interest.

SECTION 4.

a. It is hereby made the duty of the City Official designated by the Council to render bills for sewer service and all other charges in connection therewith and to collect all moneys due therefrom, and remit them to the County.

b. The City will notify each user at least annually in conjunction with a regular bill, of the rate and that portion of the user charges which are attributable to operation and maintenance and replacement of the treatment works.

SECTION 5. All sewer charges levied pursuant to the ordinance constitute a lien upon the premises served and if not paid within sixty days after due date, the charges shall be certified to the County Auditor and shall be collectible in the same manner as taxes.

ARTICLE IV

Accounting Process

SECTION 1. All revenues and moneys derived from the operation of the sewer system shall be paid to and held by the County separate and apart from all other funds of the County and all of said sums and all other funds and moneys incident to the operation of said system, as may be delivered to the County, shall be deposited in a separate fund designated the "Sewer Revenue Fund," and the County shall administer said fund in the manner provided by the Code of Iowa and all other laws pertaining thereto.

SECTION 2. The County shall establish a proper system of accounts and shall keep proper records, books and accounts in which complete and correct entries shall be made of all transactions relative to the sewer system and at regular annual intervals the County shall cause to be made an audit by an independent auditing concern or the State of Iowa of the books to show the receipts and disbursements of the sewer system. The County shall be required annually to prepare a budget of the Sanitary Sewer System to show the required revenues and expenses. If necessary, user charge rates will be adjusted to produce adequate income to retire the indebtedness, meet operation, maintenance and replacement needs, and establish required reserves.

ARTICLE V

Ordinance in Force

SECTION 1. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed insofar as the conflicting portions thereof are concerned.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and publication, according to the law of the State of Iowa.

SECTION 3. Billing under the provisions of this ordinance shall commence within 60 days after the project engineer certifies the availability of the utility for use by the citizens.

SECTION 4. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed insofar as the conflicting portions thereof are concerned.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and publication, according to the law of the State of Iowa.

First Consideration: February 25, 2020

Second Consideration: Waived February 25, 2020

Third Consideration: Waived February 25, 2020

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of February, 2020

AYES: Callanan, Watts, Latham

NAYS: None

ABSENT/NOT VOTING: None

Chairman Tim Latham
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Adam Wedmore
County Auditor